

Message

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**From:** Thomas, Hill [Hill.Thomas@mail.house.gov]  
**Sent:** 1/14/2015 9:28:57 PM  
**To:** Vaught, Laura [Vaught.Laura@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Borum, Denis [Borum.Denis@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: gwen graham

Hey Denis. Just wanted to follow up to see if we could work something out. No real time crunch on our end, just want to keep this ball in the air. Hope all is well. Hill.

---

**From:** Vaught, Laura [mailto:Vaught.Laura@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 09, 2015 4:46 PM  
**To:** Thomas, Hill  
**Cc:** Borum, Denis  
**Subject:** RE: gwen graham

So glad you are somewhere awesome! And great to hear from you. I'm looping in Denis Borum to help us figure this out. I'm thinking it will either be Ken Kopocis or Greg Peck from the Office of Water.

Let's definitely try to visit soon.

Laura

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**From:** Thomas, Hill [mailto:Hill.Thomas@mail.house.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 09, 2015 10:54 AM  
**To:** Vaught, Laura  
**Subject:** gwen graham

So.... This is where I landed. Awesome office. Awesome member. Not E&C though, unfortunately.

In any event, we do have a big EPA/Corps constituent issue re: Apalachicola Bay and the upriver considerations. I'm trying to facilitate a mtg between EPA and my boss to chat about the issue. Can you help me out or give me a referral to the right person. I don't think this necessarily has to be at the McCarthy level, but I want to get her somebody good. Any advice would be appreciated.

Hope things are going well with you. Look forward to visiting with you soon.

Hill

Hill Thomas  
Legislative Director  
Rep. Gwen Graham (FL-02)  
1213 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
T: 202-225-5235  
F: 202-225-5615  
graham.house.gov

**Congress of the United States**  
Washington, DC 20510

July 26, 2016

The Honorable Gina McCarthy  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator McCarthy,

We're writing to alert you to our serious concerns with a problematic public health proposal in Florida that will soon be sent to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for approval.

Florida residents and tourists visit the state's numerous lakes and rivers to fish, boat, and swim. Our waterways are our way of life in Florida. That's why it is critically important that we ensure Florida's water quality standards preserve the health and safety of all users, especially vulnerable populations like children, the elderly, and people whose livelihoods rely on the water, such as commercial fishermen.

In May, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) initiated rulemaking to set new human health criteria regulations for 39 chemicals and to adjust the standards for 43 chemicals currently regulated by the state. The Florida Environmental Regulation Commission approved these standards today by a 3-2 vote.

While we support efforts to update the standards that were last approved in 1992, we are deeply concerned that the state is proposing to raise the allowable levels for dozens of chemicals, including more than half of the most dangerous cancer-causing chemicals in the proposal. In several instances, these proposed levels exceed EPA's recommendations.

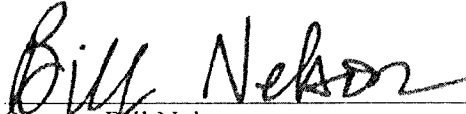
In addition, there has not been sufficient opportunity for the public to review and comment on this highly technical proposal, despite the potentially serious consequences of setting inadequate standards.

Further, we are concerned that certain perspectives may not be fully represented in the state's proposal because two positions on the Florida Environmental Commission are currently vacant. Of note, the environmental seat and the local government seat are not filled and have been unoccupied for over a year.

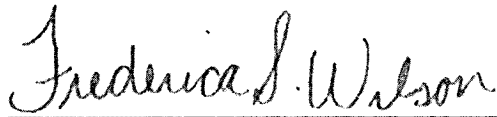
We urge you to provide a more appropriate public comment period for the proposal and to carefully evaluate each proposed human health criteria to ensure the utmost protection for our population, environment, and economy.


Thank you for your attention to this serious matter.

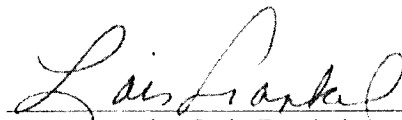
Sincerely,

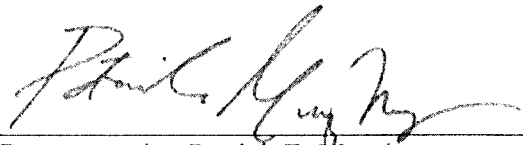
  
Senator Bill Nelson

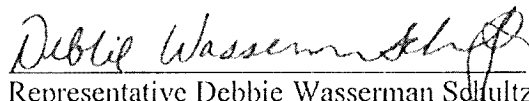
  
Representative Ted Deutch

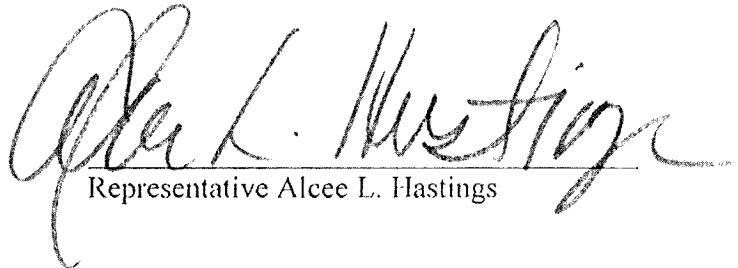
  
Representative Frederica S. Wilson

  
Representative Gwen Graham

  
Representative Lois Frankel

  
Representative Patrick E. Murphy

  
Representative Debbie Wasserman Schultz

  
Representative Alcee L. Hastings

  
Representative Alan Grayson



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 4  
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

**AUG 24 2016**

The Honorable Gwen Graham  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Graham:

Thank you for your July 26, 2016, letter to Administrator Gina McCarthy concerning water quality standards recently adopted by the Florida Environmental Regulatory Commission. As the Environmental Protection Agency Office responsible for review of Florida's water quality standards, your letter was forwarded to the Region 4 office in Atlanta, Georgia, for response.

We recognize the critical importance of Florida waterways to the State's residents and visitors, and the importance of having scientifically defensible water quality standards to protect water quality. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) has been working to revise their water quality standards to protect human health in accordance with the Clean Water Act (CWA) for a number of years. We have periodically responded to requests for technical assistance for example, to provide additional information regarding new chemicals for which no criteria had been previously established. At this time, FDEP has not submitted final water quality standards for the EPA to review. Once a final package is submitted we will review all changes to determine if the revisions are consistent with the CWA and EPA's implementing regulations. As part of this process the EPA will review the State's technical documentation, including the level of protection afforded to all users and to vulnerable populations.

With regard to your request that the EPA provide an opportunity for further public comment on the rule, the EPA review process, outlined in our regulations, does not contemplate a second public comment period. Instead, our regulations require that the state submit, as part of the package for our review, its response to the public comments received on the proposed rule. We will evaluate the comments and FDEP's responses, and we will assess the effectiveness of Florida's public participation process, which has traditionally been comprehensive and effective in providing the public with information and opportunity to comment on rulemakings. The agency is receiving many statements and phone calls regarding the State's rules and we will be considering those as we proceed with our review.

As a part of the agency's review and decision-making process, the EPA will develop a document explaining the rationale for our final decision to either approve or disapprove the standards, and we will consider the public comments we have received as we reach our decision. Our decision and the supporting document will be made available to the public and I will ensure your office is notified of our decision in a timely manner.



I want to assure you that we fully appreciate the importance of this matter and the level of public interest from many parties in Florida. If you have questions or need additional information from the EPA, please contact me or Allison Wise, in the Region 4 Office of Governmental Relations, at (404) 562-8327.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "V. Anne Heard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "V" and "A".

V. Anne Heard  
Acting Regional Administrator

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

June 14, 2016

The Honorable Gina McCarthy  
Administrator  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator McCarthy,

We are frustrated and concerned that in over two years, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has failed to create the Agriculture-Related Committee within its Science Advisory Board (SAB). On February 7, 2014, the Agricultural Act of 2014 was signed into law (Pub.L. 113-79). Section 12307 of the Act directed the EPA to "establish a standing agriculture-related committee" to provide farmers a stronger voice in the federal rule making process regarding regulations which impact agriculture.

On December 10, 2014, nearly one year after this provision was signed into law, the EPA released a Federal Register Notice announcing its establishment of the SAB Agricultural Science Committee and set a deadline of January 26, 2015, to nominate members. On January 26, 2015, the EPA extended the nomination deadline to March 30, 2015. Eventually, on August 19, 2015, after creating a list of 88 potential candidates, the EPA invited public comment on the candidates.

Since the public comment deadline on September 8, 2015, the EPA has failed, despite numerous requests, to keep Members, who supported this important provision, informed of meaningful actions or updates regarding the process. Our questions regarding the implementation of the committee have been met with empty responses, which point to a further delayed implementation process.

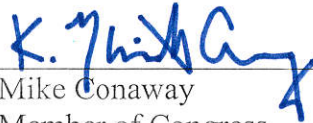
To our knowledge, all other components of the Act have been successfully implemented. Unfortunately, the EPA's inability to timely execute the creation of the Agriculture Science Committee, pursuant to Section 12307, has only fueled the growing disconnect between the agriculture community in rural America and the EPA.

To bridge this gap, it is vital the EPA establish the Agriculture Science Committee. Please respond to this request providing when you anticipate publishing the final candidate list. Thank you for your consideration of this request and we look forward to your prompt reply.


Sincerely,

  
Rodney Davis  
Member of Congress

  
Suzan DelBene  
Member of Congress

  
Mike Conaway  
Member of Congress

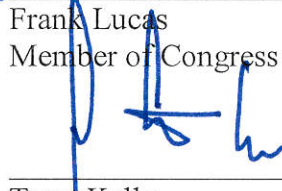
  
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Member of Congress

  
Tim Walz  
Member of Congress

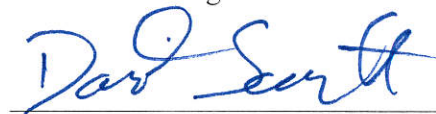
  
Mike Bost  
Member of Congress

  
Austin Scott  
Member of Congress


  
Frank Lucas  
Member of Congress

  
Trent Kelly  
Member of Congress

  
Scott DesJarlais, M.D.  
Member of Congress

  
David Scott  
Member of Congress

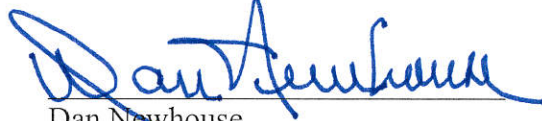
  
Collin C. Peterson  
Member of Congress

  
Kurt Schrader  
Member of Congress


  
Randy Neugebauer  
Member of Congress

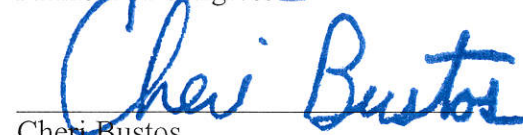
  
Doug LaMalfa  
Member of Congress

  
Vicky Hartzler  
Member of Congress

  
Dan Newhouse  
Member of Congress

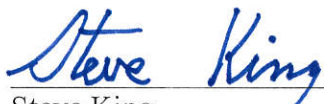
  
Bob Goodlatte  
Member of Congress

  
Brad Ashford  
Member of Congress

  
Cheri Bustos  
Member of Congress



Bob Gibbs  
Member of Congress




Steve King  
Member of Congress



Glenn 'GT' Thompson  
Member of Congress



Ann Kirkpatrick  
Member of Congress



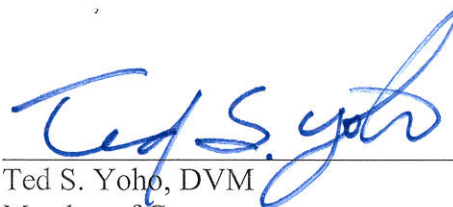
Ralph Abraham, MD  
Member of Congress



Richard M. Nolan  
Member of Congress



John Moolenaar  
Member of Congress



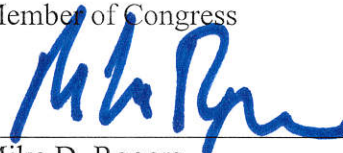
Ted S. Yoho, DVM  
Member of Congress



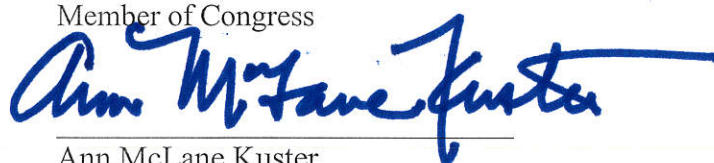
Jackie Walorski  
Member of Congress



Filemon Vela  
Member of Congress



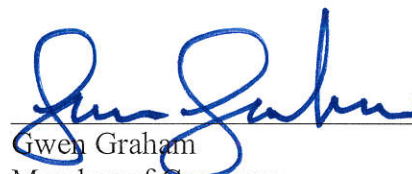
Mike D. Rogers  
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress



Michelle Lujan Grisham  
Member of Congress



Gwen Graham  
Member of Congress





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 13 2016

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR  
SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD

The Honorable Gwen Graham  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Graham:

Thank you for your letter of June 14, 2016, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the Agricultural Science Committee of the EPA Science Advisory Board (SAB).

The SAB Staff Office is nearing completion of its efforts to establish a new standing committee to advise the Board on matters that are determined to have a significant direct impact on farming and agriculture-related industries. To ensure a diverse cadre of nationally renowned experts and practitioners in the agricultural sciences, the SAB Staff Office conducted extensive outreach to agricultural organizations around the country. These efforts included a more than three month public nomination period, consultation and input from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and exhaustive outreach to over 100 organizations. As a result, a pool of 88 candidates was identified with the broad expertise necessary for the committee to perform its important new role for the agency.

My office is currently finalizing a package of recommendations for the Administrator's consideration and selection. We expect final decisions to be made this summer so that the committee members can begin their appointments October 1, 2016, along with the other members of the SAB and its standing committees.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Christina Moody in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at [moody.christina@epa.gov](mailto:moody.christina@epa.gov) or (202) 564-0260.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Zarba", is written over a horizontal line.

Christopher S. Zarba, Director  
Science Advisory Board Staff Office



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**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 2, 2016

Gina McCarthy, Administrator  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator McCarthy:

We are writing to express our strong concerns with the Interim Recommendations released by EPA on September 25, 2015 regarding environmental standards and ecolabels for use in federal procurement. We are disappointed to see that the recommendation for lumber and wood in construction excludes many American-grown forest products by recommending only those products certified to the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).

We urge you to immediately revise this flawed action by adding recognition for wood products that are certified to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and the American Tree Farm System (ATFS) as recommended for federal purchasing for lumber and wood.

Across the United States, there are more than 82 million acres of forestland certified to either SFI or ATFS. This represents more than 70% of all certified forests in the U.S. ATFS and SFI certified forests are managed to provide a renewable timber resource, clean water, wildlife habitat, and numerous other public benefits. These forests also provide thousands of jobs in the forest sector and related industries.

By excluding SFI and ATFS standards from the recommended standards for federal procurement, the EPA is sending a terribly flawed and misinformed signal to the rest of the federal government, and to the private sector, which looks to the federal government for guidance on environmental purchasing.

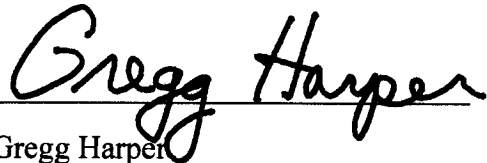
The action discredits the use of wood in government construction. This makes no sense when wood is one of the best materials architects and engineers have for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and storing carbon in buildings. Wood is a cost-effective, energy-efficient, renewable and sustainable solution for building construction.

EPA's position is inconsistent with numerous other federal agencies that have recognized and supported the use of wood in building construction, including wood certified to SFI and ATFS alongside FSC. For example, the Department of Agriculture's BioPreferred Program, which EPA has acknowledged sets mandatory purchasing requirements for federal agencies, fully recognizes wood products and accepts all three forest certification programs. EPA's recommendation is even inconsistent with guidelines listed in other places on EPA's website.

Additionally, EPA failed to follow a fair and transparent process for determining which standards to recognize for wood and lumber, as this recommendation was never made available for public comment.

We urge you to rectify this flawed recommendation and issue a revision to your Interim Recommendations by adding SFI and ATFS to the certification list for lumber and wood.

Sincerely,



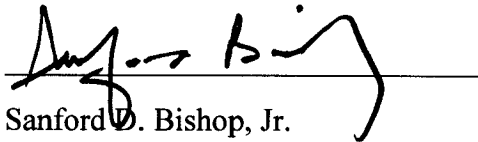
Gregg Harper  
Member of Congress



Kurt Schrader  
Member of Congress



Jaime Herrera Beutler  
Member of Congress



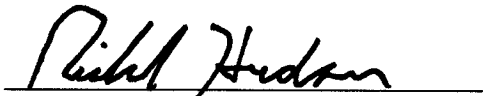
Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
Member of Congress



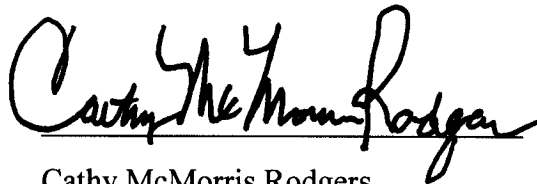
Glenn Thompson  
Member of Congress



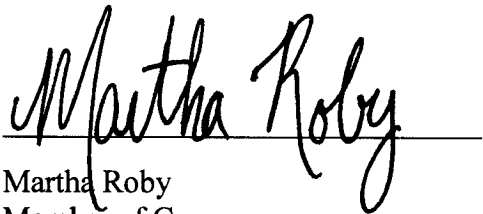
Gwen Graham  
Member of Congress



Richard Hudson  
Member of Congress



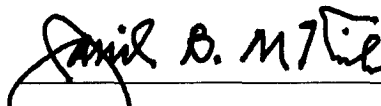
Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
Member of Congress



Martha Roby  
Member of Congress



Collin C. Peterson  
Member of Congress



David B. McKinley, P.E.  
Member of Congress



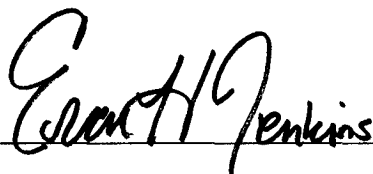
G.K. Butterfield  
Member of Congress



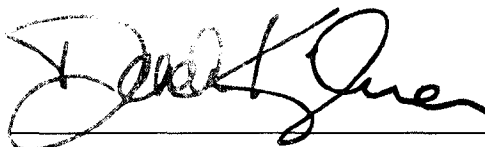
Rick Nolan  
Member of Congress



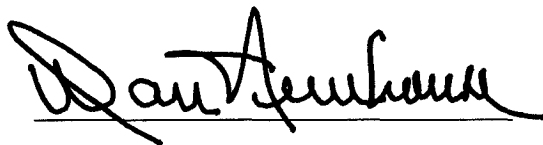
Steven M. Palazzo  
Member of Congress



Evan H. Jenkins  
Member of Congress



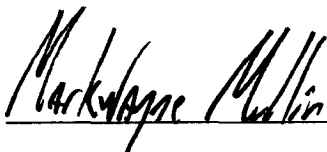
Derek Kilmer  
Member of Congress



Dan Newhouse  
Member of Congress



Mike Simpson  
Member of Congress



Markwayne Mullin  
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress



Bob Goodlatte  
Member of Congress

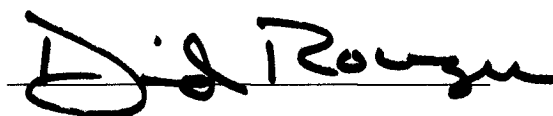


Ralph Abraham  
Member of Congress





Greg Walden  
Member of Congress



David Rouzer  
Member of Congress



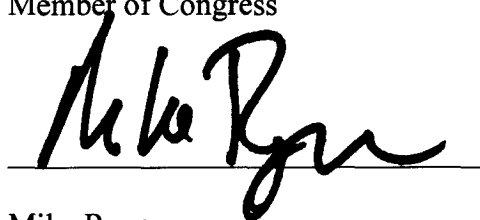
Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



Robert B. Aderholt  
Member of Congress



Dan Benishek M.D.  
Member of Congress



Mike Rogers  
Member of Congress



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

APR 26 2016

The Honorable Gwen Graham  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY  
AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

Dear Congresswoman Graham:

Thank you for your letter of March 2, 2016, and your interest in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Interim Recommendations of Specifications, Standards, and Ecolabels for federal environmentally sustainable procurement.

The Implementing Instructions for Executive Order 13693 – *Planning for Federal Sustainability in the Next Decade* – directed the EPA, in consultation with the Office of Management and Budget and the Council on Environmental Quality, to issue these recommendations to assist federal purchasers in identifying and procuring environmentally sustainable products. The EPA's Interim Recommendation for the lumber/wood category is based on the Department of Energy's Fiscal Year 2016 (FY16) Priority Products List.

As a result of stakeholder inquiries since the release of the Interim Recommendations, the EPA has met and is continuing to work with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Sustainable Environmental Stewardship to gain further information. I have also directed the agency's Standards Executive to reach out to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative and the other forestry labels that stakeholders have requested the EPA consider. She will be in touch with these groups regarding her review of forestry labels and their alignment with the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act, the OMB Circular A119, and related federal policies that guide the EPA's use of voluntary consensus standards and private sector conformity assessment activities. In addition, the EPA continues to progress with piloting our Guidelines for Assessing Standards and Ecolabels for Use in Federal Procurement (the Guidelines), and hopes that information gleaned from this process will inform thinking related to the lumber/wood category. Finally, the DOE continues to conduct research to inform their FY16 Priority Products List. The EPA looks forward to reviewing all of this additional data to inform if and how the lumber/wood category of Interim Recommendations might be revised.

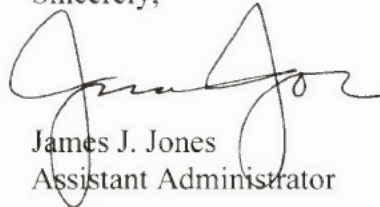
In your letter you also shared concerns about the need for a public comment period on the Interim Recommendations. The Implementing Instructions for the E.O., issued June 2015, directed the EPA, to provide these recommendations within 90 days of the issuance of the Instructions, which did not include an opportunity for public comment.

The agency has, and will continue to provide, mechanisms for public input as we develop these recommendations. We issued Federal Register Notices on the initial draft guidelines in 2014 and in March 2015 for the launch of our pilot work. Those FRNs were open to public comment and they marked the beginning of our efforts to engage multi-stakeholder panels whose counsel will be considered as we move to finalize our recommendations. Further, any federal acquisition requirements stemming from the recommendations would include a public comment process prior to incorporation

into the Federal Acquisition Regulations. As such, FAR Case 2015-033 has been developed in order to integrate the new requirements of E.O. 13693 into the FAR. All next steps related to this case, including when it will be available to the public, are viewable at [http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/dars/far\\_case\\_status.html](http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/dars/far_case_status.html).

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Sven-Erik Kaiser in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at [kaiser.sven-erik@epa.gov](mailto:kaiser.sven-erik@epa.gov) or 202-566-2753.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James J. Jones', with a stylized flourish at the end.

James J. Jones  
Assistant Administrator

**Congress of the United States**  
Washington, DC 20515

February 16, 2016

The Honorable Gina McCarthy  
Administrator  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator McCarthy,

We write today to request that the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) clarify its policy on forest biomass in the final Model Rule for state implementation plans (SIP) under the Clean Power Plan (CPP). As a renewable form of energy that provides jobs for our rural communities, our states deserve to know EPA's expectations for how biomass can be utilized to meet the standards laid out in the CPP.

Given the strong interest that states and biomass stakeholders - including private landowners, biomass producers and utilities—have expressed regarding treatment under the CPP, we are encouraged that EPA announced a biomass stakeholder workshop for April 7, 2016. However, we believe EPA should meet with stakeholders in advance, and take their feedback in order to find common ground on its policy for forest biomass before the workshop takes places. Providing states with regulatory certainty regarding biomass' treatment under the CPP is imperative as states begin to consider individual SIPs.

Forest biomass is a renewable energy source that promotes healthy forestry practices and offers an environmental solution for organic material that would otherwise be left to decompose. Additionally, this organic material – which can include tree trimmings, forest debris and scrap lumber – has no other alternative market. By removing upwards of 65 million tons of forest debris every year, the biomass power industry provides significant benefits to the vitality and health of our nation's forests.

While EPA has been generally supportive of biomass energy in the past, we request that EPA specifically provide regulatory guidance for states to incorporate both biomass heat and power within individual SIPs. We were pleased to read a November 16, 2015 document written by EPA Acting Assistant Administrator Janet McCabe that states "biomass and bioenergy products in the power system can be an integral part of state programs and foster responsible land management and renewable energy."<sup>1</sup> With this being said, it is important that EPA recognizes the carbon benefits of biomass energy and treats it the same as other forms of renewable energy under the CPP.

Thank you for your time. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,




Bruce Westerman  
Member of Congress





Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress

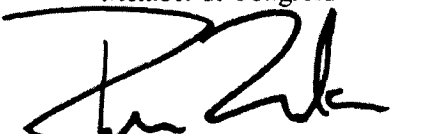
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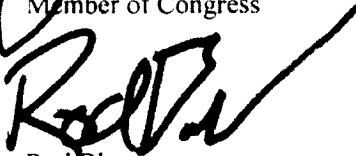
<sup>1</sup> [https://blog.epa.gov/blog/2015/11/the\\_role\\_of\\_biomass/](https://blog.epa.gov/blog/2015/11/the_role_of_biomass/)


  
Walter Jones  
Member of Congress

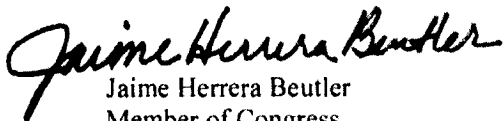
  
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Ander Crenshaw  
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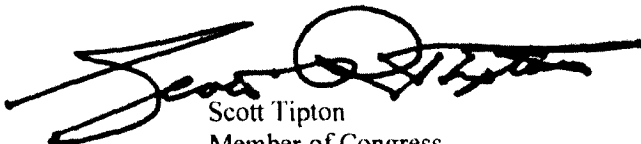
  
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Rod Blum  
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Steve Pearce  
Member of Congress

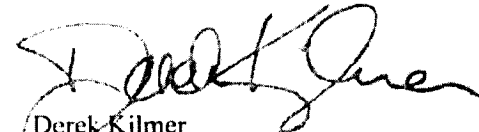
  
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Ralph Abraham  
Member of Congress

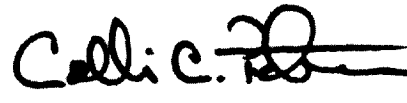
  
Scott Tipton  
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John Garamendi  
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Richard Nolan  
Member of Congress


  
Derek Kilmer  
Member of Congress

  
Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress

  
Collin Peterson  
Member of Congress

  
Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress

  
Ann Kirkpatrick  
Member of Congress

  
Peter DeFazio  
Member of Congress

  
Gwen Graham  
Member of Congress

H. Morgan Griffith  
Member of Congress

Jim Costa  
Member of Congress

Kristi Noem  
Member of Congress

Terri Sewell  
Member of Congress

Garret Graves  
Member of Congress

Brad Ashford  
Member of Congress

Reid Ribble  
Member of Congress

Suzan DelBene  
Member of Congress

Richard Hanna  
Member of Congress

Denny Heck  
Member of Congress

Ted Yoho  
Member of Congress

Kurt Schrader  
Member of Congress

J. French Hill  
Member of Congress

Sean Patrick Maloney  
Member of Congress

Earl L. "Buddy" Carter  
Member of Congress

Michael K. Simpson  
Member of Congress

Lou Barletta  
Member of Congress

Dan Newhouse  
Member of Congress

Elise Stefanik  
Member of Congress

Bruce Poliquin  
Member of Congress





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

April 22, 2016

OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Gwendolyn Graham  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Graham:

Thank you for your February 16, 2016, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy regarding the role of forest biomass in the final Model Rule under the Clean Power Plan. The Administrator asked that I respond on her behalf.

On February 9, 2016, the Supreme Court granted a motion to stay the Clean Power Plan, which is pending judicial review before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. As a result of that action, states are not currently required to submit a state plan or a request for extension by September 6, 2016. For the states that voluntarily decide to continue to work to cut carbon pollution from power plants and seek the agency's guidance and assistance, the EPA will continue to provide tools and support.

The President's Climate Action Plan highlights the critical role that America's forests play in addressing carbon pollution in the United States and fosters the expansion of renewable energy. Consistent with this Plan, the EPA recognizes that the use of some kinds of biomass to produce energy has the potential to offer a wide range of environmental benefits, including carbon benefits. Many states also recognize the importance of carbon-beneficial biomass and forestry practices, and already exhibit a variety of policies and programs that both address climate change and foster increased biomass utilization as part of their energy future.

As mentioned in your letter, to support State efforts to further evaluate the role of biomass in stationary source carbon strategies, the EPA held a public workshop on April 7, 2016, for States and stakeholders to share their successes, experiences and approaches to deploying biomass in ways that have been, and can be, carbon beneficial. This workshop fostered a constructive dialogue on ways that states can consider the potential use of biomass in efforts to address carbon pollution and promote renewable energy solutions. As in the case of other scientific and policy processes, in preparation for the biomass workshop we consulted with states, relevant stakeholders and other experts to exchange information and discuss examples of existing and potential carbon-beneficial biomass programs and activities.

Again, thank you for your letter. We have placed your comments in the docket for this rulemaking. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Patricia Haman in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at [haman.patricia@epa.gov](mailto:haman.patricia@epa.gov) or 202-564-2806.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Janet G. McCabe".

Janet G. McCabe  
Acting Assistant Administrator



GWEN GRAHAM  
2ND DISTRICT, FLORIDA

HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE  
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

1213 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-5235

300 SOUTH ADAMS STREET SUITE A-3  
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301  
(850) 891-8610

840 WEST 11TH STREET SUITE 2250  
PANAMA CITY, FL 32401  
(850) 785-0812

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-1902**

September 2, 2015

Ms. Laura Vaught  
Associate Administrator for Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 3426 Arn  
Washington, DC 20460-0001

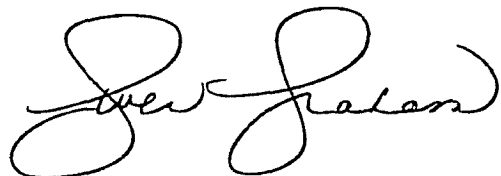
Dear Ms. Vaught:

Attached for your review is correspondence I received from Mr. David Morris, a constituent in my district. I appreciate your careful review of this information and any help you may be able to provide.

Please reply to my Tallahassee office at:  
Congresswoman Gwen Graham  
300 South Adams Street, A-3  
Tallahassee, FL 32301

If you have any additional questions, please contact Jessica Lamb who is assisting me with this case at 850-891-8610 or [Jessica.Lamb@mail.house.gov](mailto:Jessica.Lamb@mail.house.gov).

Sincerely,



Congresswoman Gwen Graham  
Florida's Second Congressional District

Attachment

GWEN GRAHAM  
2ND DISTRICT, FLORIDA

1210 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-5335

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0002**

**Privacy Act Release/Casework Request Form**

Name: DAVID MORRIS E-Mail: (b)(6)  
I prefer to receive correspondence by E-mail (if provided above): YES ☒ NO ☐  
Address: (b)(6)  
City: Chipley State: FL Zip Code: (b)(6) Date of Birth: (b)(6)  
Phone (Home): - (Cell): (b)(6) (Work): (b)(6)  
Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Agency Involved: EPA

The Problem Is: (attach additional sheets if necessary)

**Privacy Act Release**

I request and authorize U.S. Representative Gwen Graham to act on my behalf and to receive information from proper officials regarding the matter described above. Congresswoman Graham is authorized by me to receive on my behalf all correspondence and information about my case.

Signed: [Signature] Date: July 7, 2015

Please return this completed form to:

Office of Rep. Gwen Graham  
Attention: Constituent Services  
300 South Adams Street, Unit A-3  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
Phone: (850) 891-8610  
Fax: (850) 891-8620

\*\*\* Please note that the Privacy Act Release requires that you authorize access to your private records. Your signature above will enable Congresswoman Graham to make the necessary inquiries on your behalf.



The Honorable Gwen Graham,

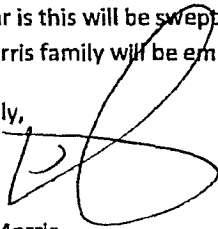
I am requesting assistance to correct a failing sewage treatment spray field located in Chipley Florida, known as the Davidson spray field. This system is owned and operated by the City of Chipley and continues to violate the conditions within FDEP permitting. Several from FDEP have visited our home and witnessed system failure. Individuals within FDEP have shown empathy; their assistance has been appreciated. Regardless, it has been 18 month since I discovered this and the Morris's have seen little progress and no resolve. The system has been in operation for five years more or less, known failure from the beginning is likely.

We have lived here for over 30 years, our home and the water on it was once pristine. The headwater stream is now contaminated, and the water is gray. Water testing has concluded that contaminates are much higher than what would normally be seen in this type environment. These conditions did not exist prior to the City's installation of the sewage treatment system.

Mrs. Morris has spoken with EPA in Atlanta GA. It is her understanding that EPA has no jurisdiction with this sewage spray field here in Florida that is discharging into a Headwater stream and into sink holes. Sinkholes are known to be a conduit to the Floridan aquifer. Headwater streams are a vital part of the Florida ecosystem and cannot be overlooked.

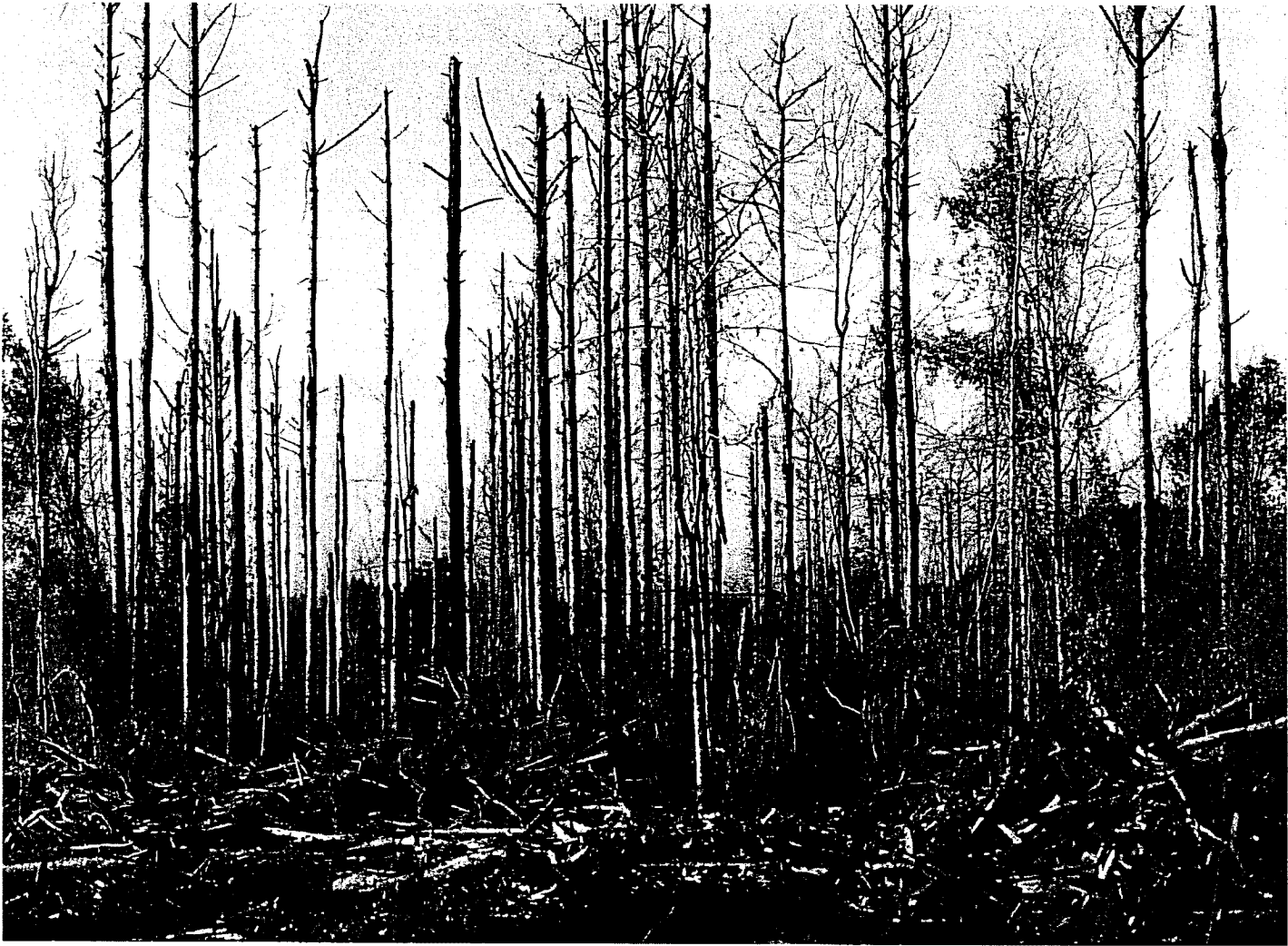
Our fear is this will be swept under the rug by local government, pollution to our environment will continue and the Morris family will be emotionally and financially devastated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'David Morris', written over a horizontal line.

David Morris







GWEN GRAHAM  
2ND DISTRICT, FLORIDA

1213 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-5225

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0902**

# FAX TRANSMISSION

DATE: 9/2/15

FROM: Jessica Lamb

---

**Office of Congresswoman Graham**  
**300 S. Adams St. Tallahassee, FL 32301**  
**Main: (850) 891-8610**  
**Fax: (850) 891-8620**

**ATTENTION:**

Laura Vaught (or Congressional Liaison)

---

FAX: 202-501-1519

PAGES: 6

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RE: Congressional Inquiry for Mr. David Morris

---

Office of Congresswoman Graham  
Tallahassee District Office  
300 South Adams St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
Main: (850)891-8610  
Fax: (850)891-8620



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4  
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

NOV 15 2015

The Honorable Gwen Graham  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
Tallahassee District Office  
300 South Adams Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Dear Congresswoman Graham:

Thank you for your September 2, 2015, letter to the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency on behalf of Mr. David Morris. Mr. Morris requested your assistance concerning a failing sewage spray field in Chipley, Florida. Your letter was forwarded to the EPA Region 4 office in Atlanta, Georgia for response.

The EPA shares responsibility with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to ensure the Clean Water Act is enforced in the State of Florida. The FDEP is authorized to implement the permit issuance, compliance monitoring and enforcement under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System program, which regulates discharge from point sources. The EPA's Region 4 Stormwater & Residuals Enforcement Section oversees these activities to ensure that enforcement actions are appropriate and executed timely.

Even though the concern raised by Mr. Morris is not characterized as a point source discharge, and is outside the purview of the Clean Water Act we did contact the FDEP on October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> so that we could provide you with a response. The FDEP has reported that the City of Chipley has discontinued use of the two spraying field zones closest to the Morris property to address the issue of excess wastewater running into the stream. Additionally, FDEP has bored holes near the stream to evaluate the soil characteristics and have determined that there is a level of natural gray clay closest to the groundwater aquifer which may be combining with the groundwater discharge to the stream causing some discoloration. For information or questions regarding the State's investigation of the complaint, and the City's compliance with the FDEP permit, Mr. Morris may contact Mr. Shawn Hamilton, Director of the FDEP Northwest District Branch Office at (850) 595-0700.

If you have further questions or need additional information from the EPA, please contact me or Ms. Alison Wise, in the Region 4 Office of Government Relations, at (404) 562-8327.

Sincerely,

  
Heather McTeer Toney  
Regional Administrator



# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 31, 2015

The Honorable Gina McCarthy  
Administrator  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20460

The Honorable Dr. Ernest Moniz  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, D.C. 20585

The Honorable Tom Vilsack  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250

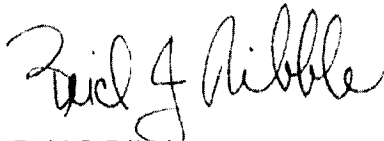
Dear Administrator McCarthy, Secretary Moniz, and Secretary Vilsack:

We write to support biomass energy as a sustainable, responsible, renewable, and economically significant energy source. Federal policies across all departments and agencies must remove any uncertainties and contradictions through a clear, unambiguous message that forest bioenergy is part of the nation's energy future.

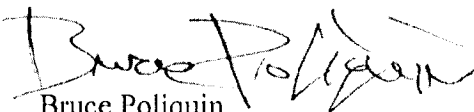
Many states are relying on renewable biomass to meet their energy goals, and we support renewable biomass to create jobs and economic growth while meeting our nation's energy needs. A comprehensive science, technical, and legal administrative record supports a clear and simple policy establishing the benefits of energy from forest biomass. Federal policies that add unnecessary costs and complexity will discourage rather than encourage investment in working forests, harvesting operations, bioenergy, wood products, and paper manufacturing. Unclear or contradictory signals from federal agencies could discourage biomass utilization as an energy solution.

The carbon neutrality of forest biomass has been recognized repeatedly by numerous studies, agencies, institutions, legislation, and rules around the world, and there has been no dispute about the carbon neutrality of biomass derived from residuals of forest products manufacturing and agriculture. Our constituents employed in the biomass supply chain deserve a federal policy that recognizes the clear benefits of forest bioenergy. We urge you to ensure that federal policies are consistent and reflect the carbon neutrality of these types of bioenergy.

Sincerely,



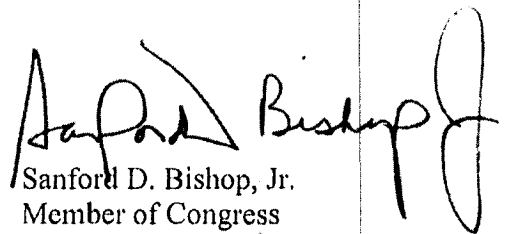
Reid J. Ribble  
Member of Congress



Bruce Poliquin  
Member of Congress



Gregg Harper  
Member of Congress



Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Kurt Schrader  
Member of Congress



Gwen Graham  
Member of Congress

*Corrine Brown*

Corrine Brown  
Member of Congress

*G.K. Butterfield*

G.K. Butterfield  
Member of Congress

*Ken Calvert*

Ken Calvert  
Member of Congress

*Steve Cohen*

Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress

*Tom Cole*

Tom Cole  
Member of Congress

*Joe Courtney*

Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress

*Ander Crenshaw*

Ander Crenshaw  
Member of Congress

*Peter A. DeFazio*

Peter A. DeFazio  
Member of Congress

*John J. Duncan, Jr.*

John J. Duncan, Jr.  
Member of Congress

*Stephen Lee Fincher*

Stephen Lee Fincher  
Member of Congress

*John Fleming*

John Fleming  
Member of Congress

*J. Randy Forbes*

J. Randy Forbes  
Member of Congress

*Virginia Foxx*

Virginia Foxx  
Member of Congress

*Tren Franks*

Tren Franks  
Member of Congress

*John Garamendi*

John Garamendi  
Member of Congress

*Louie Gohmert*

Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress

*Bob Goodlatte*

Bob Goodlatte  
Member of Congress

*Tom Graves*

Tom Graves  
Member of Congress

*Brett Guthrie*

Brett Guthrie  
Member of Congress

*Walter B. Jones*

Walter B. Jones  
Member of Congress

*Leonard Lance*

Leonard Lance  
Member of Congress

*Rick Larsen*

Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress

*Robert E. Latta*

Robert E. Latta  
Member of Congress

*Tom McClintock*

Tom McClintock  
Member of Congress

*Mick Mulvaney*

Mick Mulvaney  
Member of Congress

*Kristi Noem*

Kristi Noem  
Member of Congress

*Richard M. Nolan*

Richard M. Nolan  
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*Collin C. Peterson*

Collin C. Peterson  
Member of Congress

*Chellie Pingree*

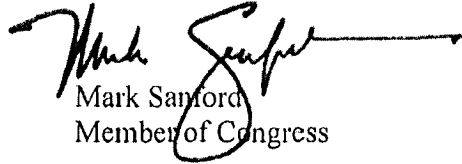
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Member of Congress

*Hal Rogers*

Hal Rogers  
Member of Congress



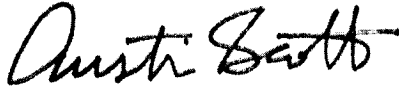
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Mark Sanford  
Member of Congress



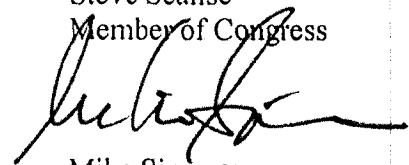
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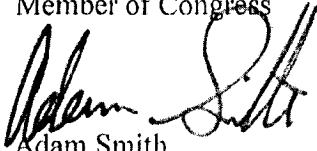
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Member of Congress



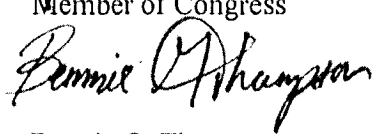
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Member of Congress



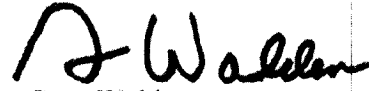
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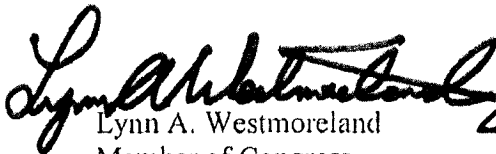
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Member of Congress



Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress



Greg Walden  
Member of Congress



Lynn A. Westmoreland  
Member of Congress




Ed Whitfield  
Member of Congress




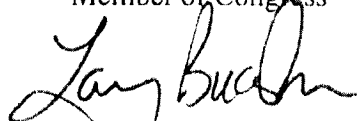
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Member of Congress





Robert J. Wittman  
Member of Congress


  
Andy Barr  
Member of Congress


  
Mike Bost  
Member of Congress

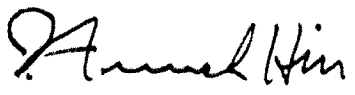
  
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Member of Congress


  
Doug Collins  
Member of Congress

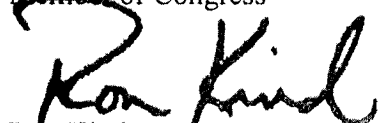
  
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Member of Congress


  
Renee L. Ellmers  
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H. Morgan Griffith  
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J. French Hill  
Member of Congress


  
John Katko  
Member of Congress


  
Ron Kind  
Member of Congress

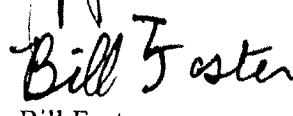
  
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Member of Congress

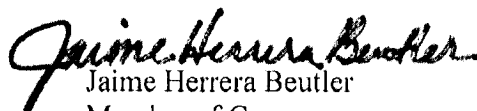
  
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Member of Congress


  
Cheri Bustos  
Member of Congress

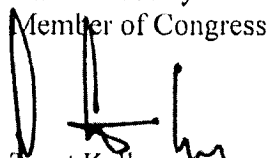
  
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Jeff Denham  
Member of Congress


  
Bill Foster  
Member of Congress


  
Jaime Herrera Beutler  
Member of Congress

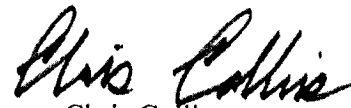
  
David W. Jolly  
Member of Congress

  
Trent Kelly  
Member of Congress


  
Adam Kinzinger  
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Earl Blumenauer  
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Mo Brooks  
Member of Congress


  
Chris Collins  
Member of Congress

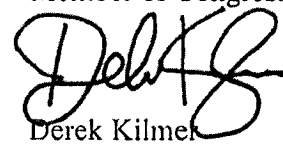
  
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Member of Congress

  
Sean P. Duffy  
Member of Congress

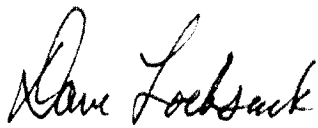
  
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Member of Congress

  
Jody B. Hice  
Member of Congress

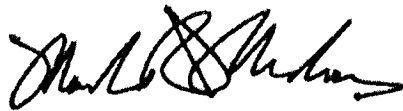
  
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Member of Congress

  
Derek Kilmer  
Member of Congress

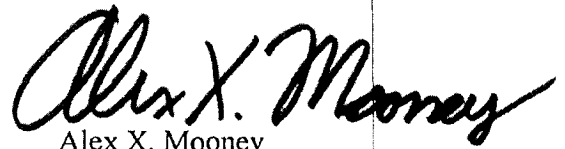
  
Raul R. Labrador  
Member of Congress



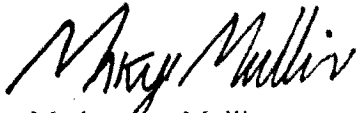
Dave Loebsack  
Member of Congress



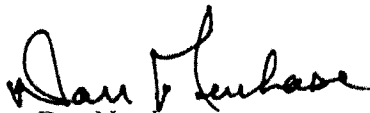
Mark Meadows  
Member of Congress



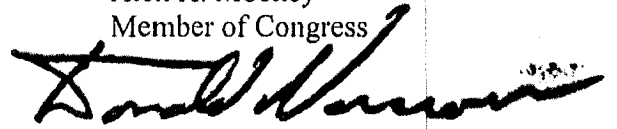
Alex X. Mooney  
Member of Congress



Markwayne Mullin  
Member of Congress



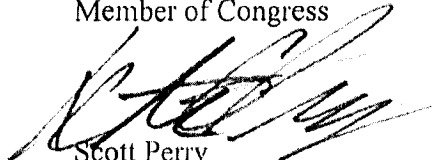
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Member of Congress



Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress



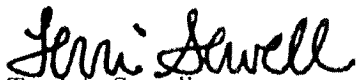
Ed Perlmutter  
Member of Congress



Scott Perry  
Member of Congress



Dave Reichert  
Member of Congress



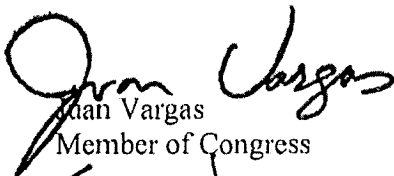
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Member of Congress



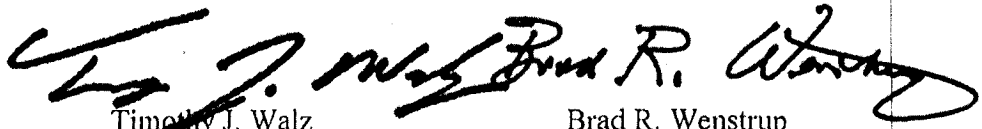
Dave Trott  
Member of Congress



David G. Valadao  
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



Timothy J. Walz  
Member of Congress

Brad R. Wenstrup  
Member of Congress



Steve Womack  
Member of Congress



Rob Woodall  
Member of Congress



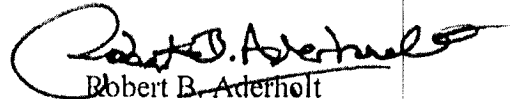
Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



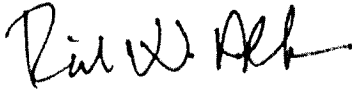
Ralph Abraham, M.D.  
Member of Congress



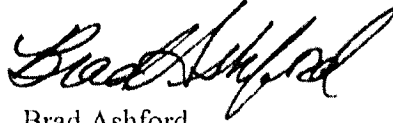
Alma S. Adams  
Member of Congress



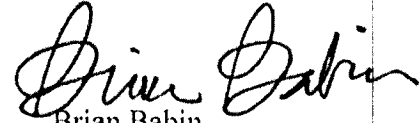
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Member of Congress



Rick W. Allen  
Member of Congress



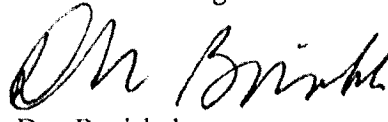
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Member of Congress



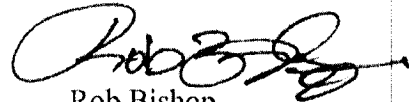
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Member of Congress



Lou Barletta  
Member of Congress



Dan Benishek  
Member of Congress



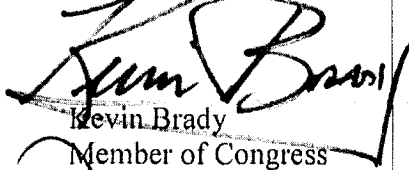
Rob Bishop  
Member of Congress



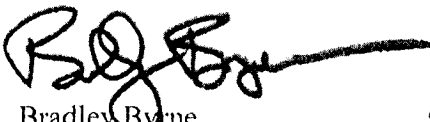
Rod Blum  
Member of Congress



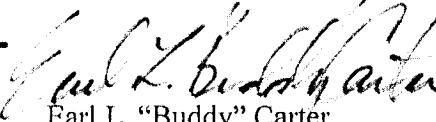
Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



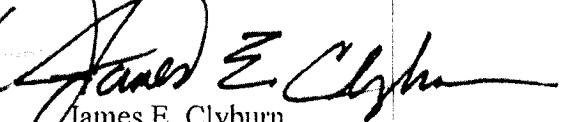
Kevin Brady  
Member of Congress



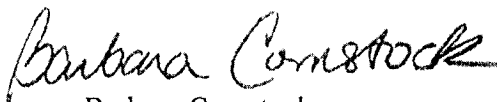
Bradley Byrne  
Member of Congress



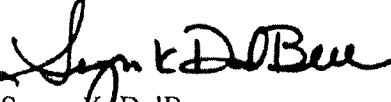
Earl L. "Buddy" Carter  
Member of Congress



James E. Clyburn  
Member of Congress



Barbara Comstock  
Member of Congress



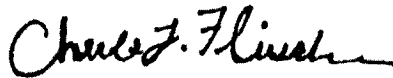
Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress



Scott DesJarlais  
Member of Congress



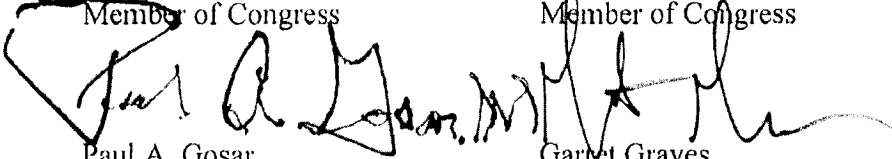
Jeff Duncan  
Member of Congress



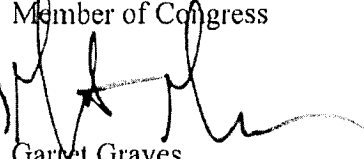
Chuck Fleischmann  
Member of Congress



Bob Gibbs  
Member of Congress



Paul A. Gosar  
Member of Congress



Garret Graves  
Member of Congress



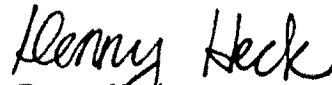
Glenn Grothman  
Member of Congress



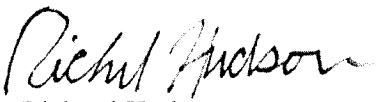
Frank C. Guinta  
Member of Congress



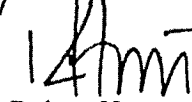
Richard L. Hanna  
Member of Congress



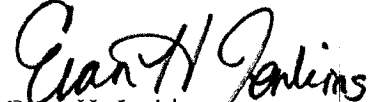
Denny Heck  
Member of Congress



Richard Hudson  
Member of Congress



Robert Hurt  
Member of Congress



Evan H. Jenkins  
Member of Congress

Ann Kirkpatrick  
Member of Congress

Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress

Doug LaMalfa  
Member of Congress

Barry Loudermilk  
Member of Congress

David B. McKinley  
Member of Congress

Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
Member of Congress

Steven M. Palazzo  
Member of Congress

Gary Palmer  
Member of Congress

Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress

John Ratcliffe  
Member of Congress

Tom Rice  
Member of Congress

Cedric L. Richmond  
Member of Congress

Martha Roby  
Member of Congress

Mike Rogers  
Member of Congress

David Rouzer  
Member of Congress

David Scott  
Member of Congress

Elise M. Stefanik  
Member of Congress

Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress

Glenn 'GT' Thompson  
Member of Congress

Scott R. Tipton  
Member of Congress

Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress

Ann Wagner  
Member of Congress

Jackie Walorski  
Member of Congress

Bruce Westerman  
Member of Congress

Ted S. Yoho, DVM  
Member of Congress

David Young  
Member of Congress

Ryan K. Zinke  
Member of Congress



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Gwen Graham  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Graham:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

The President's Climate Action Plan and All-of-the-Above Energy Strategy lay a foundation for a clean energy future and foster expansion of renewable energy, including biomass. At the same time, the President's Climate Action Plan highlights the critical role that America's forests play in addressing carbon pollution in the United States. Our agencies agree that production and use of biomass energy can be an integral part of regimes that promote conservation and responsible forest management. States also recognize the importance of forests, and many have been developing a variety of forest and land use management policies and programs that both address climate change and foster increased biomass utilization as part of their energy future.

Recent EPA regulatory action and scientific work on assessing biogenic carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from stationary sources is part of this broad climate strategy. In August 2015, EPA released the final Clean Power Plan (CPP), which describes the ways in which the use of biomass may be a component of state plans. For example, in the CPP, EPA generally acknowledges the benefits of waste-derived biogenic feedstocks and certain forest- and agriculture-derived industrial byproduct feedstocks and expects that these feedstocks would likely be approvable in a state plan. To support states and stakeholders in incorporating bioenergy in their state plans, EPA plans to hold a public workshop in early 2016 for stakeholders to share their successes, experiences, and approaches to deploying biomass in ways that have been, and can be, carbon beneficial. In addition, EPA has also developed a revised *Framework for Assessing Biogenic Carbon Dioxide from Stationary Sources* that can assist states when considering the role of biomass in state plan submittals. The revised report takes into account the latest information from the scientific community and other stakeholders, including findings from EPA's Science Advisory Board (SAB) review of the first draft framework. EPA is continuing to refine its accounting work through a second round of targeted peer review with the SAB in 2015.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The revised draft Framework and SAB peer review request memo can be found at: <http://epa.gov/climatechange/ghgemissions/biogenic-emissions.html>. Information regarding the SAB peer review process can be found at: [www.epa.gov/sab/](http://www.epa.gov/sab/).



USDA recognizes the important role forest management and biomass will play in both our energy and climate future. Increasing the demand for wood for energy results in more forest area, more forest investment, and potential greenhouse gas reductions. To increase forest stocks and improve forest health and management, we must develop incentives that keep working forestland forested and support forest restoration, reforestation, and afforestation. This is all the more critical, especially amid development pressures and increasing threats from insects, disease, and wildfire.

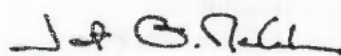
Under USDA's Wood to Energy Initiative, USDA has supported over 230 Wood Energy projects through nearly \$1 billion in grants, loans, and loan guarantees since 2009 through a host of programs, including the Renewable Energy for America Program and the Biomass Crop Assistance Program. USDA has established state-wide wood energy teams in 19 states that are helping deliver needed technical and financial assistance to expand those markets further.

DOE recognizes the importance of wood as a renewable energy source. DOE is leading efforts to develop and demonstrate technologies for producing cost-competitive advanced biofuels from non-food biomass resources, including forest and wood resources, algae, and waste streams. These efforts require rigorous scientific study and evaluation to understand the impacts of various biomass feedstocks, especially woody resources, to optimize the benefits of their use.

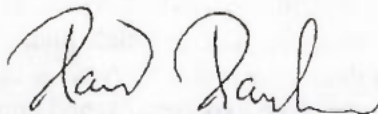
In the context of the President's Climate Action Plan and All-of-the-Above Energy Strategy, DOE, EPA, and USDA will work together to ensure that biomass energy plays a role in America's clean energy future. As stated in your letter, the American people deserve a Federal policy that recognizes the benefits of forest bioenergy. Together, our agencies are working carefully and consistently to quantify the benefits of using wood for energy.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact us or your staff may contact Ms. Patricia Haman in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at (202) 564-2806; Ms. Janine Benner, DOE's Deputy Assistant Secretary for House Affairs at (202) 586-5450; or Mr. Todd Batta, USDA's Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations at (202) 720-6643.

Sincerely,



Janet G. McCabe  
Acting Assistant Administrator  
Office of Air and Radiation  
U.S. Environmental Protection  
Agency



Dr. David T. Danielson  
Assistant Secretary  
Office of Energy Efficiency  
and Renewable Energy  
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson  
Chief Economist  
U.S. Department of Agriculture



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

SEP 13 2016

OFFICE OF  
SOLID WASTE AND  
EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The Honorable Gwendolyn Graham  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Graham:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Superfund program is proposing to add the Post and Lumber Preserving Co. Inc. site, located in Quincy, Florida, to the National Priorities List (NPL) by rulemaking. The EPA received a governor/state concurrence letter supporting the listing of this site on the NPL. Listing on the NPL provides access to federal cleanup funding for the nation's highest priority contaminated sites.

Because the site is located within your congressional district, I am providing information to help in answering questions you may receive from your constituency. The information includes a brief description of the site and a general description of the NPL listing process.

If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Raquel Snyder, in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations, at (202) 564-9586. We expect the rule to be published in the Federal Register in the next several days.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mathy Stanislaus". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mathy Stanislaus  
Assistant Administrator

Enclosures





## NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST (NPL)

\*\*\*Proposed Site\*\*\*

September 2016

**POST AND LUMBER PRESERVING** | **Quincy, Florida**  
**CO. INC.** | *Gadsden County*

### **Site Location:**

The Post and Lumber Preserving Co. Inc. site is an 18-acre property located at the northeast corner of Post Plant Road and Havana Highway in Quincy, Florida. The site is in a rural setting with several residences near the facility.

### **Site History:**

Between 1948 and 1990, wood preserving operations were conducted at the facility using both pentachlorophenol (PCP) and chromated copper arsenate (CCA). An on-site pond was used for the collection of waste materials and was later converted to an on-site surface impoundment. The site drains into an unnamed tributary of the Little River. The facility is now abandoned. The site is partially fenced but is not secured.

### **Site Contamination/Contaminants:**

Soil, sediment and ground water are contaminated with pentachlorophenol (PCP), arsenic and dioxin. Dioxins, furans and arsenic have been found in levels above Safe Drinking Water Act Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) in ground water migrating from the surface impoundment.

### **Potential Impacts on Surrounding Community/Environment:**

Dioxin and arsenic contamination have been found in the wetlands surrounding the site and in the creek leading from the site to the Little River. The Little River is classified as a recreational river by the state of Florida. In addition, the site's surface impoundment contains high levels of wood preserving-related wastes and is likely a source of ground water contamination.

### **Response Activities (to date):**

In 1987 the waste materials from the on-site pond were consolidated into the current surface impoundment, and capped. In 1996, the EPA conducted a time-critical removal action to address contaminated on-site surface soils and remove remaining tanks and drums. Lastly, since 1996 the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FLDEP) has removed additional soils both on-site and off-site, including soils at several nearby residential properties. In addition, FLDEP placed a temporary cover over the surface impoundment.

### **Need for NPL Listing:**

The state of Florida referred the site to the EPA because of the contamination in the shallow ground water at the site and the need to investigate the extent of the contamination in off-site wetlands and downstream sediments. Other federal and state cleanup programs were evaluated, but are not viable at this time. The EPA received a letter in support of proposing to add this site to the NPL from the state.

*[The description of the site (release) is based on information available at the time the site was evaluated with the HRS. The description may change as additional information is gathered on the sources and extent of contamination. See 56 FR 5600, February 11, 1991, or subsequent FR notices.]*

For more information about the hazardous substances identified in this narrative summary, including general information regarding the effects of exposure to these substances on human health, please see the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) ToxFAQs. [ATSDR ToxFAQs](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq/index.asp) can be found on the Internet at <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq/index.asp> or by telephone at 1-800-CDC-INFO or 1-800-232-4636.



## NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST (NPL)

### WHAT IS THE NPL?

The National Priorities List (NPL) is a list of national priorities among the known or threatened releases of hazardous substances throughout the United States. The list serves as an information and management tool for the Superfund cleanup process as required under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). The NPL is intended primarily to guide EPA in determining which sites warrant further investigation to assess the nature and extent of public health and environmental risks associated with a release of hazardous substances.

There are three ways a site is eligible for the NPL:

**1. Scores at least 28.50:**

A site may be included on the NPL if it scores sufficiently high on the Hazard Ranking System (HRS), which EPA published as Appendix A of the National Contingency Plan. The HRS is a mathematical formula that serves as a screening device to evaluate a site's relative threat to human health or the environment. As a matter of Agency policy, those sites that score 28.50 or greater on the HRS are eligible for inclusion on the NPL. This is the most common way a site becomes eligible for the NPL.

**2. State Pick:**

Each state and territory may designate one top-priority site regardless of score.

**3. ATSDR Health Advisory:**

Certain other sites may be listed regardless of their HRS score, if all of the following conditions are met:

- a. The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has issued a health advisory that recommends removing people from the site;
- b. EPA determines that the release poses a significant threat to public health; and
- c. EPA anticipates it will be more cost-effective to use its remedial authority than to use its emergency removal authority to respond to the site.

Sites are first proposed to the NPL in the *Federal Register*. EPA then accepts public comments for 60 days about listing the sites, responds to the comments, and places those sites on the NPL that continue to meet the requirements for listing. To submit comments, visit [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).

Placing a site on the NPL does not assign liability to any party or to the owner of any specific property; nor does it mean that any remedial or removal action will necessarily be taken.

For more information, please visit [www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/npl/](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/npl/).